

In the Claims:

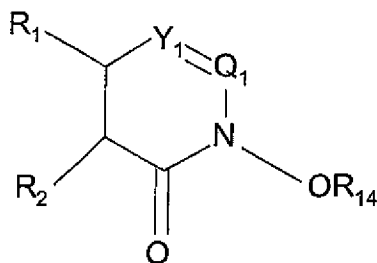
Please cancel claims 20-31, 69 and 71, and amend the remaining claims as shown. A detailed listing of the claims is provided, below.

1. – 19. (Canceled)

20. – 31. (Canceled)

32. – 55. (Canceled)

56. (Currently Amended) A compound or salt, wherein the compound or the cation of the salt is of the formula



wherein

R₁ and R₂ taken together with the carbon atoms to which they are attached form ~~an heteroaryl ring wherein said heteroaryl ring is an oxygen, sulfur or nitrogen heteroaromatic containing from 3 to 13 ring carbon atoms and 1-4 heteroatoms selected from O, S, and N~~ a pyridyl ring, said ~~heteroaryl~~ pyridyl ring may be unsubstituted or substituted with a lower alkyl group or an electron donating group;

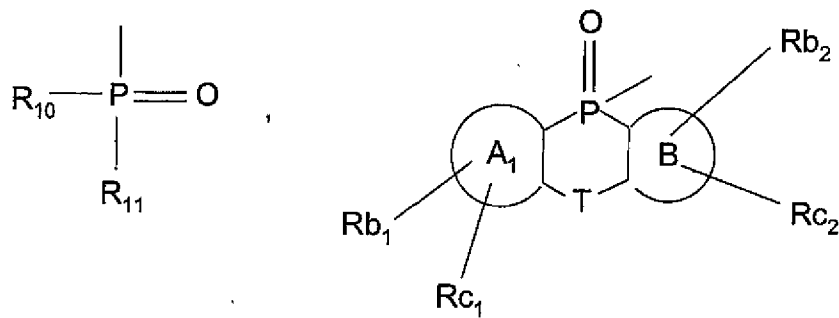
Y₁ is N ~~or CR₁₅~~;

~~R₁₅ is H or lower alkyl;~~

Q₁ is N ~~or CR₁₆~~;

R₁₆ is H or lower alkyl;

R₁₄ is a positively charged electron withdrawing group,



SO₂R₁₇, lower alkyl carbonyl, aryl carbonyl, lower alkyl aryl, or BLK₁-AA₁

R₁₇ is aryl, aryl lower alkyl or lower alkyl;

AA₁ is an amino acid or peptide less a hydrogen atom on the N-terminus and an OH on the C-terminus;

BLK₁ is an amino protecting group,

R₁₀ is OR₁₂, lower alkyl, aryl, aryl lower alkyl, lower cycloalkyl, lower cycloalkyl lower alkyl, heterocyclic, heterocyclic lower alkyl, lower cycloalkenyl, or lower cycloalkenyl lower alkyl;

R₁₁ is OR₁₃, lower alkyl, aryl, aryl lower alkyl, lower cycloalkyl, lower cycloalkyl lower alkyl, heterocyclic, heterocyclic lower alkyl, lower cycloalkenyl or lower cycloalkenyl lower alkyl;

and R₁₀ and R₁₁ may optionally be connected by a bridging group selected from the group consisting of O, S, NR₃₀, or (CHR₃₀)_m, wherein each R₃₀ is independently lower alkyl or hydrogen and m is 1-3; and

R₁₂ and R₁₃ are independently lower alkyl, lower cycloalkyl, lower cycloalkyl lower alkyl, heterocyclic, heterocyclic lower alkyl, lower cycloalkenyl or lower cycloalkenyl lower alkyl;

ring A₁ and ring B are independently an aromatic ring containing 6 to 14 ring carbon atoms or cycloalkenyl or cycloalkyl, each containing 5 to 14 ring carbon atoms, and

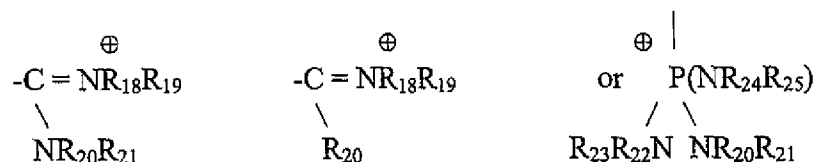
R_{b1}, R_{c1}, R_{b2}, R_{c2} are independently hydrogen, lower alkyl or electron donating group;

T is CHR₃₁, O, S or NR₃₀; and

R₃₁ is hydrogen or lower alkyl.

57. (Original) The salt according to Claim 56 wherein R₁₄ is a positively charged electron withdrawing group.

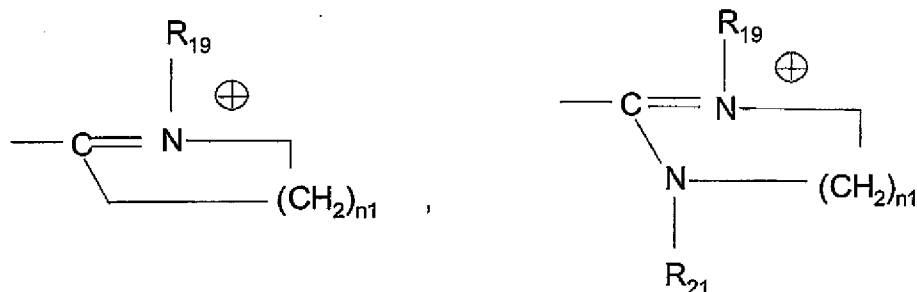
58. (Currently Amended) The salt according to Claim 57 wherein R₁₄ is an electron withdrawing group of the formula



wherein

R₁₈, R₁₉, R₂₀, R₂₁, R₂₂, R₂₃, ~~and R₂₄~~ and R₂₅ are independently hydrogen, lower alkyl, or lower alkoxy lower alkyl or R₁₈ and R₁₉ taken together with the atoms to which they are attached form a ring containing up to 6 ring atoms and up to a total of 5 carbon ring atoms or R₂₀ and R₂₁ taken together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a 5 or 6 membered nitrogen containing heterocyclic ring containing up to a total of 5 carbon ring atoms or R₁₈ and R₂₀ taken together with the nitrogen atom and the carbon atom to which they are attached form a heterocyclic ring, or R₂₂ and R₂₃ taken together with the atoms to which they are attached form a ring containing up to 6 ring atoms and up to a total of 5 carbon atoms or R₂₄ and R₂₅ taken together with the carbon atoms to which they are attached form a ring containing up to 6 ring atoms and up to a total of 5 carbon atoms.

59. (Currently Amended) The salt according to Claim 58 wherein R₁₄ is

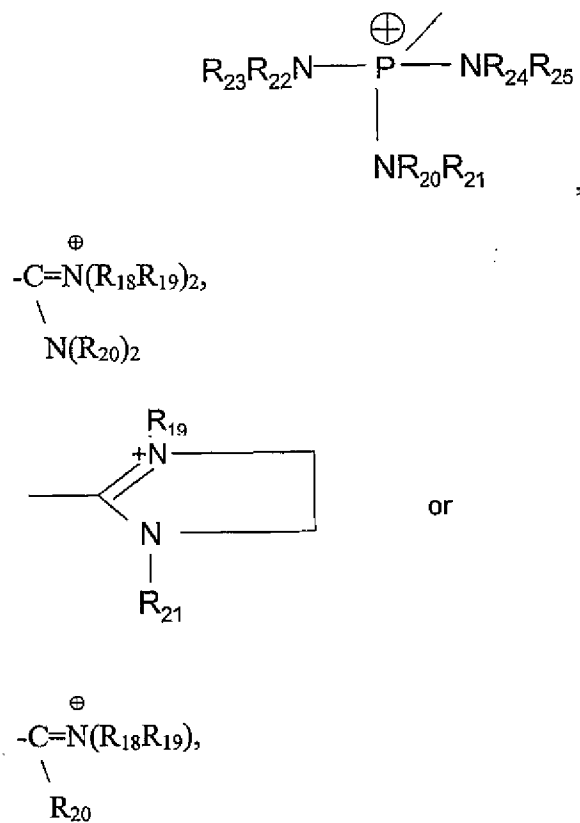


⊕
or P(NR₂₄R₂₅)₃

wherein R₁₉, R₂₀, and R₂₁, R₂₄ and R₂₅ are independently hydrogen, or lower alkyl or lower alkoxy lower alkyl; and n₁ is 0 or 1.

60. (Currently Amended) The salt according to Claim 59 wherein R₁₉ and R₂₁ or R₂₄ and R₂₅ are the same.

61. (Original) The salt according to Claim 56 wherein R₁₄ is

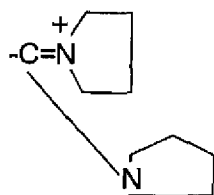
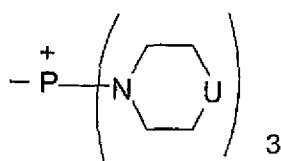
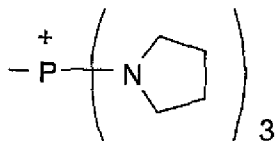
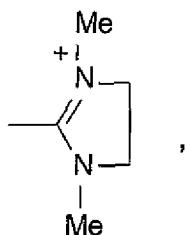
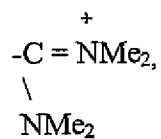


wherein R₁₈, R₁₉, R₂₀, R₂₁, R₂₂, R₂₃, R₂₄ and R₂₅ are independently hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl, pentyl, or CH₂CH₂OCH₂CH₃.

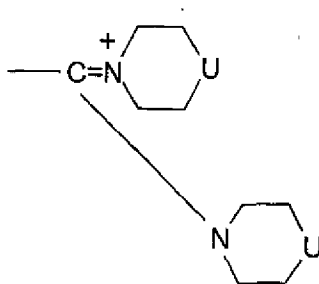
62. (Currently Amended) The salt according to Claim 61 wherein R₂₃, R₂₂, R₂₀, R₂₁, R₂₄, and R₂₅ are the same or R₁₈, R₁₉ and R₂₀ are the same or R₁₉ and R₂₁ are the same.

63. (Currently Amended) The compound or salt according to Claim 56 wherein R₁₄ is \oplus

\oplus
-P-(NMe₂)₃, lower alkyl carbonyl, lower arylalkyl carbonyl, aryl carbonyl,

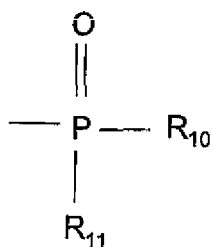


or



wherein U is ~~N~~NH, or O.

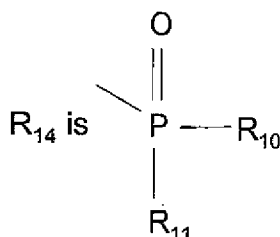
64. (Currently Amended) The compound according to Claim 56 wherein R_{14} is



65. (Original) The compound according to Claim 64 wherein R_{10} is OR_{12} , lower alkyl, aryl, or aryl lower alkyl; R_{11} is OR_{13} , lower alkyl, aryl; or aryl lower alkyl and R_{10} and R_{11} may optionally be connected by a bridging group selected from the group consisting of O, S, NH, and $(CH_2)_m$; m is 1-3; and

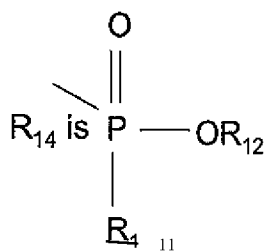
R_{12} and R_{13} are independently lower alkyl, aryl, or aryl lower alkyl.

66. (Original) The compound according to Claim 56 wherein



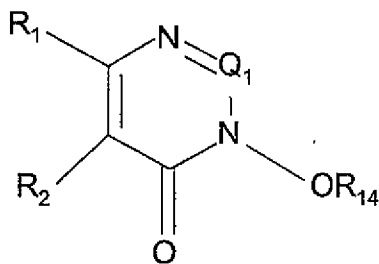
wherein R_{10} and R_{11} are independently lower alkyl or aryl.

67. (Currently Amended) The compound according to Claim 56 wherein



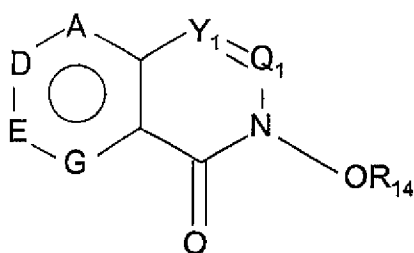
wherein R_{12} and R_{11} are independently lower alkyl or aryl.

68. (Currently Amended) The compound or salt according to Claim 56 wherein the compound or the cation of the salt has the formula



69. (Canceled)

70. (Currently Amended) The compound according to Claim 56 wherein the compound or the cation of the salt has the formula



wherein

A is N or CR₂₄;

D is CR₂₅ or N;

E is CR₂₆ or N;

G is CR₂₇ or N;

R₂₄, R₂₅, R₂₆ and R₂₂₂₇ are independently hydrogen, ~~or a~~ or a lower alkyl group or an electron donating group, or R₂₅ and R₂₆ or R₂₄ and R₂₅ or R₂₆ and R₂₇ taken together with the carbon atoms to which they are respectively attached ~~from~~ form an aryl ring;

wherein ~~at least~~ one of A, D, E and G, is N;

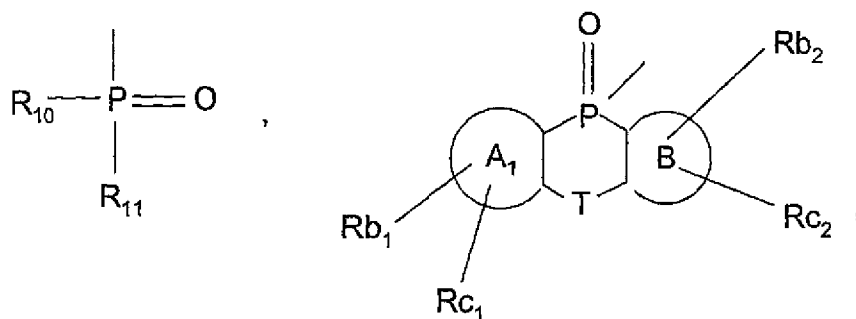
Y₁ is N ~~or CR₁₅~~;

~~R₁₅ is H or lower alkyl;~~

Q₁ is N ~~or CR₁₆~~;

R₁₆ is H or lower alkyl;

R₁₄ is a positively charged electron withdrawing group,



SO₂R₁₇, lower alkyl carbonyl, aryl carbonyl, loweralkyl aryl, or BLK₁-AA₁

R₁₇ is aryl, aryl lower alkyl or lower alkyl;

AA₁ is an amino acid or peptide less a hydrogen atom on the N-terminus and an OH on the C-terminus;

BLK₁ is an amino protecting group,

R₁₀ is OR₁₂, lower alkyl, aryl, aryl lower alkyl, lower cycloalkyl, lower cycloalkyl lower alkyl, heterocyclic, heterocyclic lower alkyl, lower cycloalkenyl, or lower cycloalkenyl lower alkyl;

R₁₁ is OR₁₃, lower alkyl, aryl, aryl lower alkyl, lower cycloalkyl, lower cycloalkyl lower alkyl, heterocyclic, heterocyclic lower alkyl, lower cycloalkenyl or lower cycloalkenyl lower alkyl;

and R₁₀ and R₁₁ may optionally be connected by a bridging group selected from the group consisting of O, S, NR₃₀, or (CHR₃₀)_m, wherein each R₃₀ is independently lower alkyl or hydrogen and m is 1-3; and

R₁₂ and R₁₃ are independently lower alkyl, lower cycloalkyl, lower cycloalkyl lower alkyl, heterocyclic, heterocyclic lower alkyl, lower cycloalkenyl or lower cycloalkenyl lower alkyl;

ring A₁ and ring B are independently an aromatic ring containing 6 to 14 ring carbon atoms or cycloalkenyl or cycloalkyl, each containing 5 to 14 ring carbon atoms, and

R_{b1}, R_{c1}, R_{b2}, R_{c2} are independently hydrogen, lower alkyl or electron donating group;

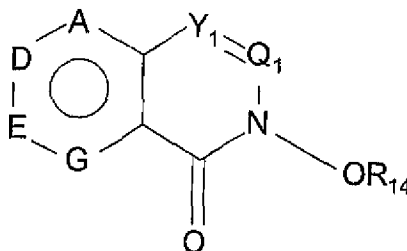
T is (CHR₃₁), O, S or NR₃₁; and

R₃₁ is hydrogen or lower alkyl.

71. (Canceled)

72. (Currently Amended) The compound or salt according to Claim 70

where the compound or the cation has the formula



wherein

A is N or CR₂₄;

D is CR₂₅ or N;

E is CR₂₆ or N;

G is CR₂₇ or N;

R₂₄, R₂₅, R₂₆ and R₂₇ are independently hydrogen or lower alkyl;

wherein ~~at least~~ one of A, D, E and G, is N;

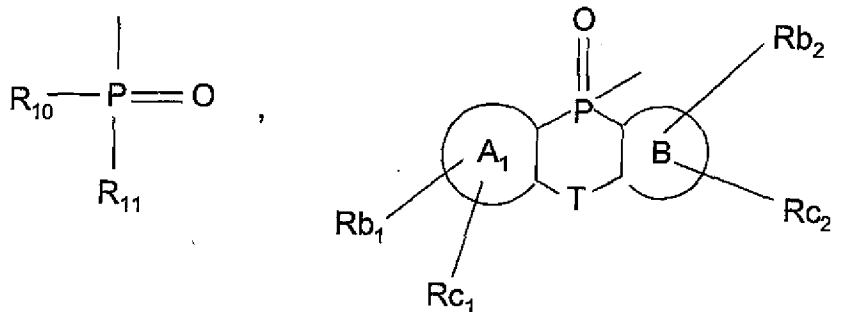
~~Y₁ is N or CR₁₅;~~

~~R₁₅ is H or lower alkyl;~~

Q₁ is ~~N or~~ CR₁₆;

R₁₆ is H or lower alkyl;

R₁₄ is a positively charged electron withdrawing group,



SO₂R₁₇, lower alkyl carbonyl, aryl carbonyl, loweralkyl aryl, or BLK₁-AA₁

R₁₇ is aryl, aryl lower alkyl or lower alkyl;

AA₁ is an amino acid or peptide less a hydrogen atom on the N-terminus and an OH on the C-terminus;

BLK₁ is an amino protecting group,

R₁₀ is OR₁₂, lower alkyl, aryl, aryl lower alkyl, lower cycloalkyl, lower cycloalkyl lower alkyl, heterocyclic, heterocyclic lower alkyl, lower cycloalkenyl, or lower cycloalkenyl lower alkyl;

R₁₁ is OR₁₃, lower alkyl, aryl, aryl lower alkyl, lower cycloalkyl, lower cycloalkyl lower alkyl, heterocyclic, heterocyclic lower alkyl, lower cycloalkenyl or lower cycloalkenyl lower alkyl;

and R₁₀ and R₁₁ may optionally be connected by a bridging group selected from the group consisting of O, S, NR₃₀, or (CHR₃₀)_m, wherein each R₃₀ is independently lower alkyl or hydrogen and m is 1-3; and

R₁₂ and R₁₃ are independently lower alkyl, lower cycloalkyl, lower cycloalkyl lower alkyl, heterocyclic, heterocyclic lower alkyl, lower cycloalkenyl or lower cycloalkenyl lower alkyl;

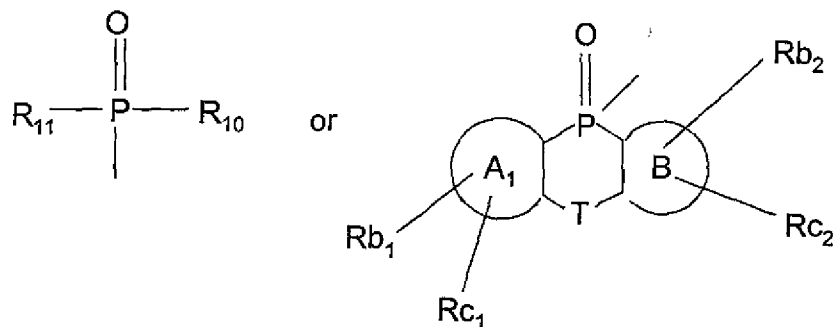
ring A₁ and ring B are independently an aromatic ring containing 6 to 14 ring carbon atoms or cycloalkenyl or cycloalkyl, each containing 5 to 14 ring carbon atoms, and

R_{b1}, R_{c1}, R_{b2}, R_{c2} are independently hydrogen, lower alkyl or electron donating group;

T is (CHR₃₁), O, S or NR₃₁; and

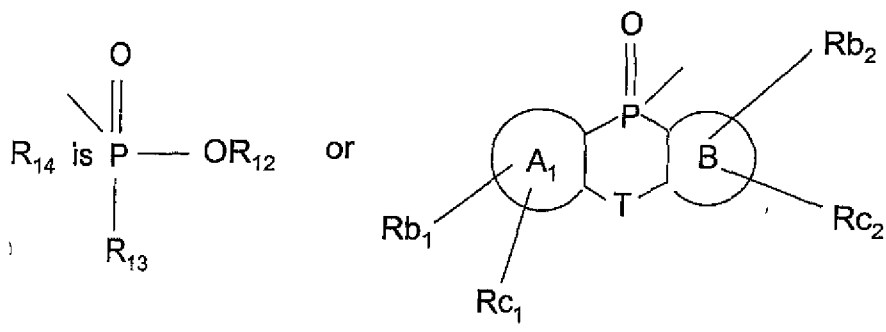
R₃₁ is hydrogen or lower alkyl.

73. (Original) The compound according to Claim 72 wherein R₁₄ is



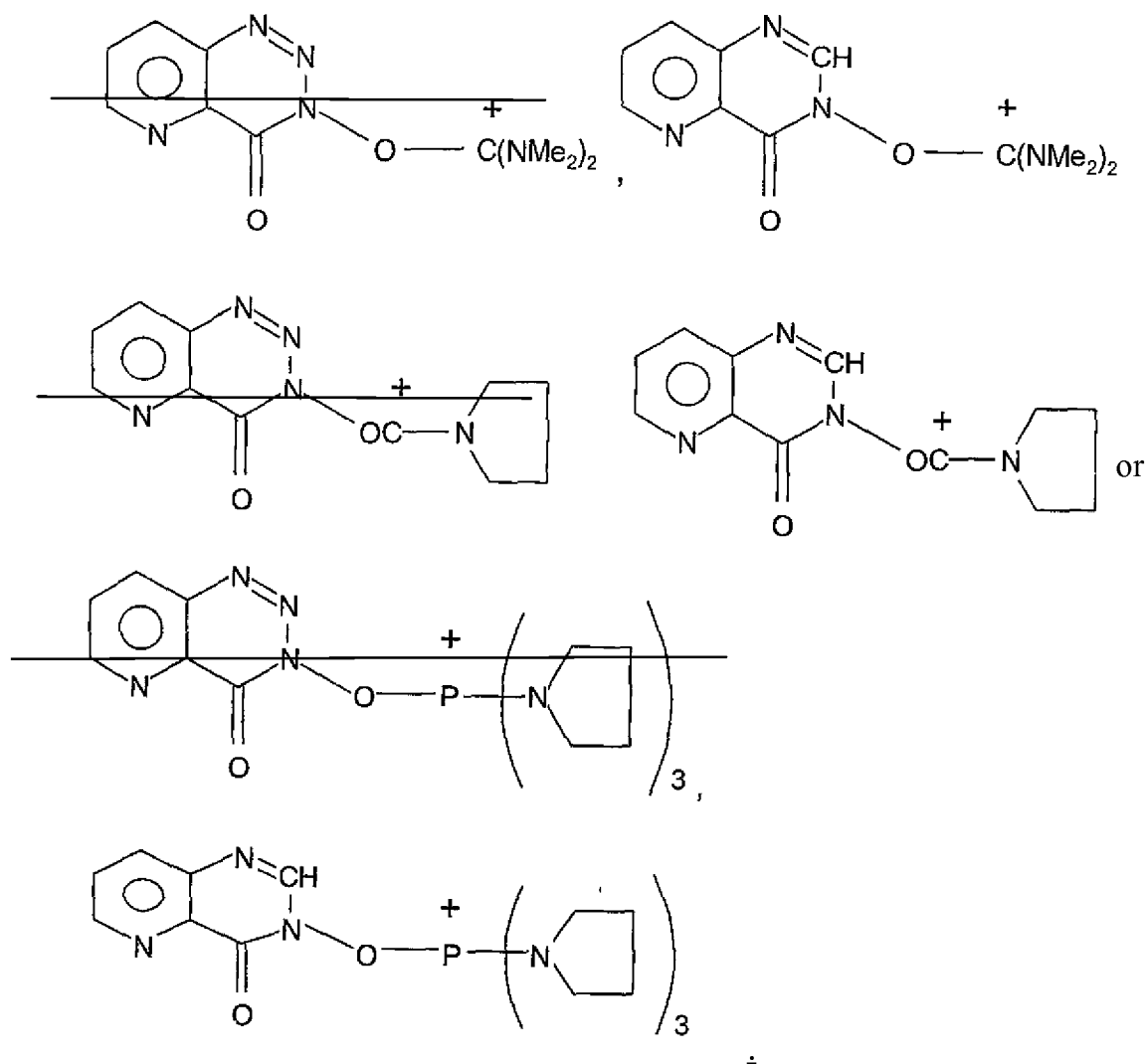
wherein R_{10} and R_{11} , R_{b1} , R_{b2} , R_{c1} , R_{c2} are independently hydrogen or lower alkyl and T is O, CH_2 , NH or S and ring A_1 and ring B are independently an aromatic ring.

74. (Original) The compound according to Claim 56 wherein

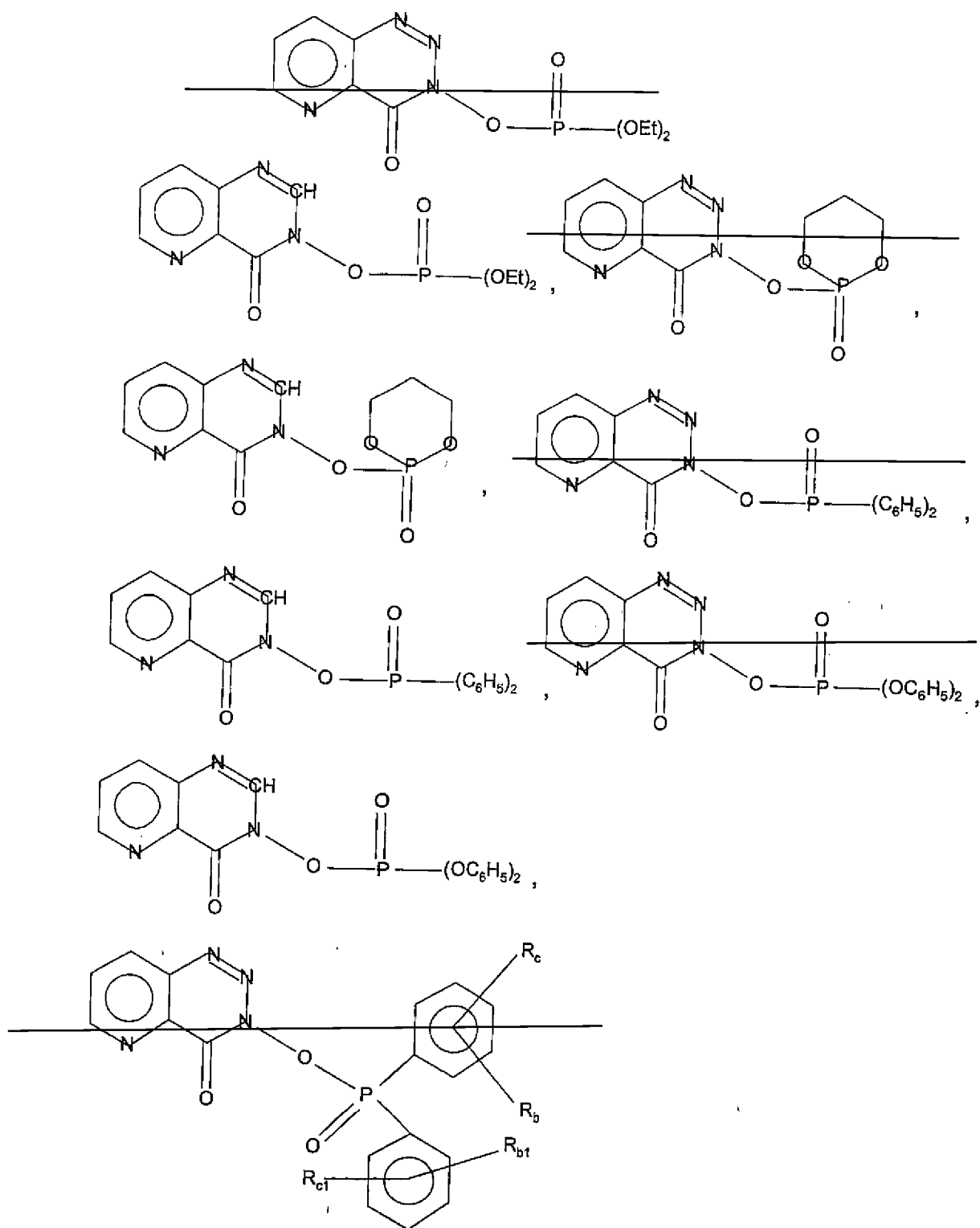


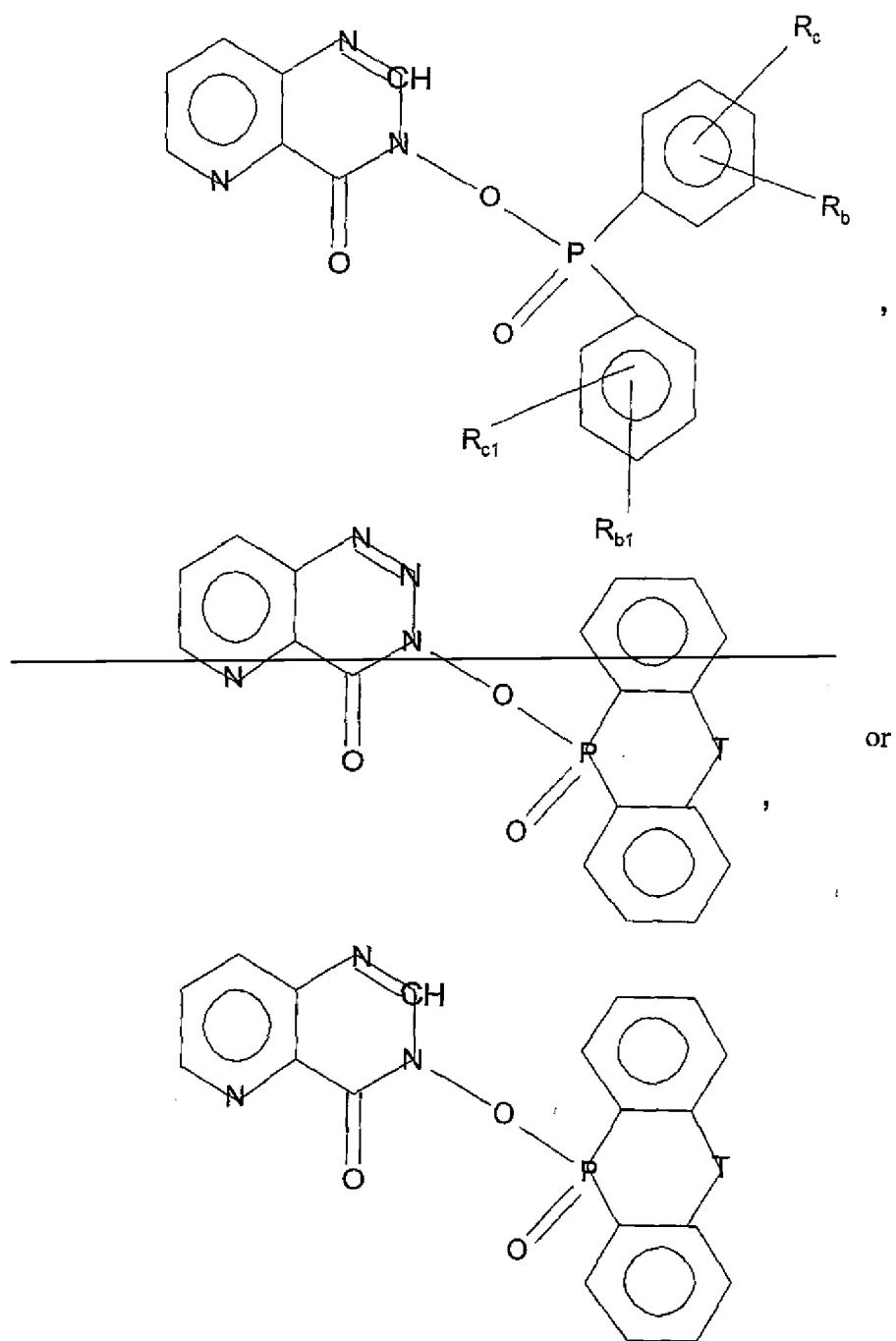
wherein R_{12} , R_{13} , R_{b1} , R_{b2} , R_{c1} and R_{c2} are independently hydrogen or lower alkyl; ring A_1 and ring B are independently phenyl; and T is CH_2 , O, S or NH.

75. (Currently Amended) The compound according to Claim 56 wherein the compound is a salt, the cation of which has the formula



76. (Currently Amended) The compound according to Claim 56 wherein the compound has the formula





wherein R_b , R_{b1} , R_c , are independently lower alkyl or hydrogen and T is CH_2 , NH, O or S.

77. – 129 (Canceled)